

Western District AFGC

Fall, 2023

Lydia Reibel, District Director

Western District is made up of 2 clubs, Pecan Grove Garden Club (PGGC) & Yuma Garden Club (YGC) plus one Society, Yuma Orchid & African Violet (OAVS). Over this summer Moody Garden Makers (MGM) decided not to join AFGC.

In the past the Garden Clubs of Yuma meet monthly to work on community projects like the Co. Fair Horticulture Dept. & the Home & Garden Show. Since it is so hard to get officers along with not doing as many projects we decided to fold this group known as "Federated G. C. of Yuma" into "AFGC Western District". The only change is in the name & we will no longer meet monthly.

All clubs are actively planting & planning for our biggest fundraiser, the Home & Garden Show. It will be held again in January, 2024. Last year it was held in March but attendance was much less.

Pennies for Pines is a program that all three clubs participate in. APS (our power company) organizes a Tree Planting on or near Arbor Day. We buy the trees, THEY pick them up from the nursery & THEY plant them. Last year the clubs together planted 10 trees in a local park. We requested for them to be Natives to coincide with the NGC President's project.

PGGC & YGC give Scholarships to worthy students from the

local colleges. YGC presents their's at the annual Christmas Party.

PGGC is very active with Youth Poetry & Posters Contests. Over the years they have won many State, Regional & National Awards. PGGC with help from YGC Floral Design Group organizes a workshop for the Girl Scouts to make floral arrangements for the Co. Fair. OAVS has a repotting workshop for adults every year & this year hopes to have one for kids.

Youth & Family activities are a big part of YGC. This year they will be participating in 4 events. You will find them at the Master Gardners "Field to Family" event, Yuma Co. Health Fair, the Home & Garden Show & Native Am. Heath & Wellness Fair. Childern will plant seeds and do other garden related projects to take home. It is said "WE PLAY with the kids but TALK GARDENING with the parents!" Vegetables are the most asked about subject.

Sadley we lost 2 of our members this summer. Evelona Ackley, a beautiful person, very knowledgeable about native plants, active at 90 years young, and our beloved Elizebath Moody, at 105 years. Close friends say she was mentally sharp right to the end. Elizebath had been a member of YGC since 1944. She also belonged to MGM & held many offices in both clubs. She was known for the beautiful & award-winning roses. Plans are being drawn to make a Memorial Rose Garden in the Moody Garden.